THE ALASKA CEDAR IN CALIFORNIA

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Many rumors have been current relative to the occurrence of both the Alaska cedar, *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis* (Lamb.) Spach, and the western larch, *Larix occidentalis* Nutt., in California. These rumors have been particularly tantalizing since the descriptive evidence seemed so convincing. However, they were not vouched for by specimens. Recently, a collection from northwestern California clearly demonstrates the occurrence of *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis* in our flora. Mr. Oliver V. Matthews of Salem, Oregon, collected the species in 1939 on the northeast slope of Mount Emily in northwestern Siskiyou County and Dr. Doris Gillespie Niles of Humboldt State College, reports having seen it on Little Grayback farther to the west. Both localities are a little over two miles south of the Oregon line. Specimens of the Mount Emily material are deposited in the herbarium at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Anaheim, California. Mr. Matthews reports that at Mount Emily the plants are associated with *Abies shastensis, Picea Breweriana, Pinus monticola, Libocedrus decurrens* and *Taxus brevifolia.*

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REVIEWS

The Ferns and Fern Allies of Wisconsin. By R. M. Tryon, N. C. Fassett, D. W. Dunlop, M. E. Diemer. Frontispiece. Pp. v + 158 with 214 figures and 76 maps. Published by the Department of Botany, University of Wisconsin, Madison. May, 1940. Price $1.00.

The work treats three families of ferns and five families of fern allies as they occur in Wisconsin. The introduction contains directions for the use of the keys and closes with a well directed plug for the American Fern Society. A brief statement of the meteorology, geology, and physiography of Wisconsin precedes the taxonomic treatment. The keys are replete with references to text figures illustrating the terminology, a practice which should facilitate their use. The illustrations are largely halftones, most of which are from excellent photographs; a few have suffered somewhat at the hands of the printer in that their blackness often obscures the detail. Drawings are well done and excellently reproduced. Distribution maps, which are liberally used, give a clear picture of the range of each species. In some cases the limestone areas are mapped showing the correlation between the distribution of the species and the occurrence of limestone. The value of such maps cannot be overestimated. They serve a very useful purpose in interpreting the plant geography of the region as well as in directing botanists to areas where further field work is needed. The chores of the four-fold authorship are divided between a fern specialist, a director of the project, an illustrator